

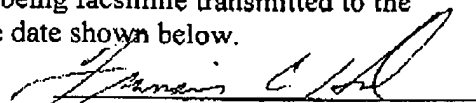
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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.

MARCH 9, 2010
Date


Francis C. Hand

Art Unit 3763

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Nicholas Lucchesi
Applicants: Vincent L. Vaillancourt
Serial No: 10/773,538
Title: Needle Guard

Customer No.:27192

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST FOR STATUS

Sir:

Since the filing of an Amendment After Appeal on October 3, 2008, no written reply has been received from the USPTO.

Pursuant to a series of telephone calls to Examiner Catherine Williams and Supervisory Examiner Lucchesi culminating in February 2010, the Amendment After Appeal was reviewed by Supervisory Examiner Lucchesi and the undersigned was advised that a new Examiner would be assigned to the application and a Notice of Allowance mailed.

The status of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Francis C. Hand

Reg. No. 22,280

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